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Dr. Charles E. Thomson...

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REPORT

OF

Dr. Charles E. Thomson and Prof. Guy N. Collins

TO THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF

The New York State Colonization Society,

APRIL 19th, 1892.

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Box 309

Embodying Recommendations based upon their
Experience and Observations while
in Liberia.

REPORT

OF

Dr. Charles E. Thomson and Prof. Guy N. Collins

TO THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF

THE NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

APRIL 19th, 1892.

Embodying Recommendations based upon their
Experience and Observations while
in Liberia.

TO THE FRIENDS OF LIBERIA.

There being many who have subscribed to a fund for a Hospital in Liberia, this Report is issued that they, and others interested, may know the need of such an Institution in that Republic; as presented by two Professional men sent out by the Society in October, 1891, who have just returned. Additional copies may be had by addressing,

MR. CHARLES T. GEYER, Secretary, &c.,

19 William Street, New York.

REPORT.

To the Board of Managers of the New York State Colonization Society :

We landed at Monrovia from bark "Liberia," on the sixth day of December about four o'clock in the afternoon. Accompanied by Capt. Page we went to Mr. R. A. Sherman's house.

He received us kindly but said that he had no accommodations for us, and that he did not think that we could get any in the town on account of the near approach of inauguration.

It being Sunday, and all the places of business closed, we contented ourselves with walking about the town as long as our strength would permit, and then returning to the bark to spend the night. On the following day we went ashore about eight o'clock and proceeded at once to Miss Sharp's. She received us kindly and seemed very pleased to see us. She offered us rooms, but said that her board was very scanty.

After resting a few minutes in her house, and finding upon inquiry that the college was closed, we started in search of the authorities in order to gain admission to the building. After being directed to five or six different houses as possible places where the keys might be lodged, we were at last told that the college would probably be open and no keys required. We then started for the building which could be seen about one mile distant. The path leading up to the college is about four feet broad, and bordered on either side by a dense jungle so thick that it would seem impossible for a dog to penetrate. Before reaching the college we were met by a boy about sixteen years old who offered to act as our guide, and indeed his services were not at all superfluous, as the path frequently branched and it was quite possible to lose one's way. Before reaching the college we elicited from the boy that he was the sole survivor of the students of Liberia College, he having

Jan. 25, 1931 DA/H2C

attended up to the time that it closed. After a hard walk in the scorching sun we reached the building, which as for beauty of situation can be surpassed by none of the colleges in this or other countries, but the building itself is in a deplorable condition. The doors were open, the building almost entirely empty, and the floors and railings of the balconies were so rusted and rotten as to be unsafe.

We could see no possible way in which to utilize this building to any good advantage. In returning through the town we met Rev. S. W. Gibson, and had a somewhat lengthy talk with him. He told us that operations had been suspended in the college, and that he had been elected president, subject to the sanction of the Boston board. It was now about 3 P.M., and we were glad to get back on board the Liberia and get something to eat, Capt. Page having kindly offered us the use of the bark as a refuge as long as he remained in port.

As Capt. Irons' steamboat left for Millsburg on the following morning, and there appeared to be nothing to be done in Monrovia, for a time at least, we decided to go up to the Rev. David A. Day's, and thus get some idea of what the country was like.

We left Monrovia the following morning on a most curious craft, the only steamboat on Liberian waters.

The country back of Monrovia is beautiful in the extreme, but at the same time it appears to be very deadly. For a distance of about nine miles the shores are so low that when the tide rises the water overflows large tracts, and as it recedes leaves a wet soil under the scorching sun, which must be an ideal place for developing of malaria microbes. However, after a distance of nine miles, the river widens and passes from what is known as the Stockton Creek into the St. Paul's proper, the banks become more elevated, and the mangrove trees give place to the locust, palm and cotton wood.

There are a number of prosperous settlements along the banks of this river, among which might be mentioned Clay-Ashland, New York, and Louisiana.

We reached Millsburg about 3 P. M., and started at once for Rev. Mr. Day's, a distance of about two miles. The land

on either side of this road is for the most part taken up by Americo-Liberians, and devoted to the raising of coffee and some other tropical products. Rev. Mr. Day received us most heartily, and offered us a home for as long as we wished to stay with him.

The Rev. Mr. Day is in charge of Muhlenburg mission, and has about 120 acres under cultivation, devoted chiefly to the raising of coffee. He takes native children, and besides teaching them in ordinary literary branches, he has them work on his plantation, thus partially paying for their board and at the same time learning the art of coffee growing. After they have become efficient in this, they are allowed to take up a plantation of their own, and commence raising coffee for themselves.

As soon as it was known that there was a doctor at Mr. Day's, the people came flocking in from the surrounding country for treatment. They came in such numbers that it was impossible to treat all of them, although we both devoted most of our time to that purpose.

After having been at Mr. Day's about a week, Prof. Cook made another trip to Monrovia to consult with the authorities of the College, but could gain little satisfaction. On the 20th of December Mr. Brownell was taken sick with remitting malaria fever. Dr. Thomson, Mr. Collins, and Prof. Cook were taken sick in the same way on the 24th, 25th and 26th respectively.

At the time when Prof. Cook came down Mr. Brownell was partially recovered.

We were all confined to our beds about five days; in eight days we were able to go about our work again.

We considered ourselves very fortunate in having such a place as the Rev. Mr. Day's house at our disposal during our sickness. If we had been obliged to live in the houses and under the care of the more ignorant people of that country, we think it highly probable that some of us would have died even in our first attack. It was then that the advantages of a hospital where patients could be kept and properly treated was first forced upon us, Mr. Day's private house being

practically turned into a hospital at that time. On the 29th of December Mr. Brownell thinking that it would be foolishness for him to remain longer in that country, left for Monrovia to take steamer to Grand Canary which sailed in a few days. About a week after our first attack Prof. Cook and Mr. Collins (Dr. Thomson being so busy that it was impossible for him to accompany) made a trip back into the country. Furnished with guides by Mr. Day we crossed the river from the mission and traveled about northeast. The country through which we passed was beautiful in the extreme, even to people interested in natural sciences, but to a collector and enthusiast in zoology or botany it was a paradise. The land is not swampy except in small isolated places; it is drained by numerous streams, and there is quite a quantity of timber suitable for building purposes. There are numerous plantations along the road taken up by natives who have been educated at Rev. Mr. Day's, and who grow rice, cassada and some coffee; but these are only small cleared spaces in the general forest. We reached Mt. Coffee about 3 P. M., and were kindly received by the natives of a little town at the foot of the mountain or hill. The country around here is very fertile, and the mountains, which we thought to be about four or five hundred feet above the surrounding country, are covered with large trees, some of them at least 100 feet in height. These trees are chiefly locust, cottonwood and a highland mangrove, totally different from the swamp mangrove. After staying in the neighborhood of Mt. Coffee for two days we returned to Muhlenburg.

About two or three days after returning from this trip Mr. Collins was again taken with the fever, and, as in the first attack, was severely threatened with kidney complications, so that the Doctor and Prof. Cook both advised him to go home as soon as possible.

Dr. Thomson had for some time been thinking of a hospital plan hereafter submitted, and we thought it best that he should accompany Mr. Collins in order to submit this scheme to the board. Mr. Cook accompanied us as far as the Canary Islands while waiting for material to attempt a further expedition into the interior.

While at the Canaries we suffered from repeated attacks of the fever, which ceased about the 5th of March.

PLAN.

As a result of our late visit to Liberia with a view of establishing in that country a permanent system of education, and inducing the people of Liberia to coöperate with us, we consider the following plan the most feasible and practical one that can be adopted. It requires but little energy and spirit from the people of this country and Liberia to put it in practice. We are satisfied the Liberian people will do their part. The following is the scheme.

I.—That the Liberian people, assisted by voluntary contributions from this country, and aided by the privileges of the buildings now at Muhlenburg, will build and equip buildings suitable for commencing operations of the proposed scheme, or any part thereof that the N. Y. S. C. S. see fit to adopt.

II.—That the profits of the institution be devoted yearly to a building fund, for the purpose of adding to the institution such buildings as will be required for the full development of our scheme.

III.—That the institution shall consist of

1st. Two school rooms, each having accommodations for thirty pupils, properly equipped for teaching purposes.

2d. A hospital ward with accommodations for fifteen patients, an isolating room and an operating room, all properly equipped for the accommodation of such operations and the treatment of such diseases as are likely to come to such an institution in that country.

IV.—That the staff shall consist of one male and one female teacher, as are hereafter recommended; two physicians with some hospital experience; and two professional nurses, capable of taking charge of the nursing department of such an institution, and giving instructions to the young Liberian women to be educated there, hereafter described.

V.—That the N. Y. S. C. S. grant four or five thousand dollars a year for five years, to pay salaries and defray expenses of staff, on condition that the Lutheran Missionary Board grant one-half as much for this same purpose.

VI.—That the N. Y. S. C. S. pass a resolution inviting Rev. D. A. Day to come to America in June—at his own expense—for the purpose of entering into further and complete arrangements with the N. Y. S. C. S. for the adoption of the scheme under consideration.

We would also recommend that the merits of the scheme be considered apart from the amount of funds asked for, so that if the N. Y. S. C. S. think it worthy of their support they may grant the sum asked for, *or any part thereof*, they feel disposed to grant, or that they think the merits of the scheme deserve.

NEEDS OF LIBERIA.

We found the country in great need of some established system of education by which the rising generation could receive first, a *primary education*, and later enter into the more advanced courses of their individual abilities and inclinations, as the requirements of their country demanded it.

Rev. Mr. Day has a school at Muhlenburg, where the native children under his care are taught to read and write by a lady teacher, Miss Beacon (white), and there is a school at Arthington, taught by a Liberian, but we fear they lack the spirit and energy so necessary for the education of the young, especially in a country like Liberia, where so much is allowed to go to ruin by default.

The people are anxious to have their children educated. In speaking of this to some of the prominent men of Arthington, they assured us that they would be most grateful if some such institution could be established.

They said they had no practical schools at home, they could not afford to send their sons to England, and experience had taught them that when they sent them to Monrovia they learned more evil than good, and returned little advanced in literary education, but having acquired much of the pride

and vanity, so common to their race, and a great deal of the immorality for which the capital is noted.

We noticed that the native children were further advanced in education than the Liberian children. This is due, first, from the Liberian children being excluded from Rev. Mr. Day's and many other schools which are for native children only. Secondly, the native people being the working class, their children are more industrious and embrace the opportunities of getting an education, while many of the Liberian children, elated by their supposed superior parentage, saunter idly about and lose much of the zeal requisite for educational advancement.

If our scheme is adopted the Liberian children would then have at least as good a chance as the native children and if energetic practical teachers are employed this chance would, we think be increased about two-fold. These teachers would need to be of high moral standing and go out with the firm intention of teaching by example as well as by the ordinary methods. As soon as they get the respect and good will of their pupils, which is not hard to obtain, they would be easily managed and we are satisfied would progress rapidly.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION;

except from an agricultural standpoint, is not feasible at present, as there is neither material to be manufactured, or demand for such articles in the country, within a reasonable distance of the coast, and to go back into the interior where material could be obtained and manufactured for export would incur the expenditure of a great deal of money, and would be a doubtful paying investment. The agricultural part is quite different, and we think there could be a great deal of benefit done in this direction. If The American Colonization Society, instead of taking emigrants from this country out to Liberia, and dropping them down along some tidal creek close to Monrovia, and giving them provisions to live on for six months or a year, leaving them without any one to show them how to clear or cultivate their plantations, they were taken back to the vicinity of Muhlenburg or Arthington

and put on a plantation already under cultivation, and controlled by an agent of the Society, in six months or a year they would have acquired sufficient knowledge to commence a plantation of their own, and as the country back of Muhlenburg is not settled, and is the most promising part of the Republic we saw, they could easily settle in that vicinity. Up to this time they would have been able to earn sufficient to live on; then if the Society through its agent could spare them something when commencing on their own plantations, it would be to the advantage of them and the neighborhood they expected to make their future homes; their children could be educated at the proposed institution, and they could receive medical treatment for the fever they are most sure to contract on going there. We would venture to say there would not be so many of them wanting to return to America, as has been the case heretofore.

We found Liberia in a deplorable condition from a medicinal standpoint. The people are subject to about all the ills to which the human flesh is heir, and they live in entire ignorance, both as to the means of avoiding disease and the medicinal or domestic relief to be used when they become affected. Failing in the knowledge of these, they resort to all sorts of absurd and ridiculous treatment, which, instead of relieving them of what was often at first some simple malady, makes confirmed invalids of them, and in many cases deteriorates their progeny, making them weak and susceptible to diseases, and short lived, as our statistical report will show.

One thing that brings many to early graves and adds misery to the lives of less severe cases, is the way the midwives treat the umbilical cord of the children which results in about twenty-five per cent. of them developing umbilical hernias, which are to be seen everywhere protruding from their nude abdomens. This is a condition we see very little of in this or any country where any medical knowledge is brought to bear on the management of such cases, and although it is a simple thing when properly attended to, when neglected it brings an endless amount of misery on the unfortunate possessor of such an unnatural appendage.

Another class of cases are the ulcers on different parts of the body, but particularly on the feet and legs which by neglect and ill treatment become of great size and often eat off one or more of the toes, sometimes kill the patient and almost always make them limping invalids for years, which deteriorates their systems and makes them prolific fields for the reception and ravages of other diseases. Quite a large per cent. of these cases is due to such underlying diseases as syphilis and would require constitutional treatment, but a large proportion are due in the first place to some slight injury, which being neglected or plastered over with something that increases the irritation results in the loathsome sores described. We could go on enumerating cases of this nature almost indefinitely, but will let the above suffice and say a few words on the relation of our scheme to this the medical aspect of the question.

We propose to take into our institution on commencing, about four of the most intelligent young women that can be found in that country. If there is occasion more can be taken. They will be instructed in all things pertaining to professional nursing. If patients are as plentiful as they were during our late visit we will have plenty of material to work on. Besides the medical training they will be taught to make and apply all kinds of surgical dressings and bandages, to take charge of cases of midwifery, with or without a doctor, and to treat simple cases of surgery, as ulcers and simple wounds; the best methods of arresting hemorrhage, reviving patients from conditions of shock or fainting fits, instruct them in sanitary precautions (so much neglected in that country); also the proper food for patients in various conditions and the way to prepare such food. We would also expect to improve them in their general education, so that they can read professional works intelligently and write so that they may be understood by any one from whom they wish to seek information in their future work. It will probably take about two years to complete such a course but at any time they would be sent out to nurse such patients as occasion demanded. At the end of that time they would be

subjected to an examination and if considered efficient they would be graduated and allowed to go out to practice as professional nurses, or to remain in the institution to take the place of the nurses sent out from here. We would also expect to take in about the same number of boys and to instruct them in much the same way, but would try to pay more attention to advancing them higher in education with a view to having them continue their course, and if they became fit to have some of them go on and take a year or so in a medical college or even graduate as physicians so that at the end of five years we would hope to have a staff of purely Liberian production which had acquired sufficient knowledge of medicine to make them capable of attending to at least those diseases most amenable to treatment, which knowledge we expect would spread and have its effect on future generations.

We were all struck with the willingness and aptitude of the young people to learn anything and everything useful to them. We took cotton out in web, and after showing them once how to cut and roll surgical bandages, they went on and made as neat a lot of bandages as we ever saw. The boys, too, showed a great deal of interest and intelligence in learning the names of all instruments, so that they became useful assistants to us even in the short time we were among them.

We would try and select nurses from different parts of that Republic, so as to spread the knowledge we impart to them as widely as possible, and would expect as much good from preventing malpractice as from the practice of the more judicious.

In this way, at the end of five years, we could have at least thirty of the most intelligent young men and women scattered throughout the Republic, with such a knowledge of medicine as would enable them to administer to a great number of suffering humanity, who are sorely in need of something of practical benefit.

FINANCIAL ASPECT.

We believe the Liberian people, with what assistance they would receive by voluntary contributions from this country,

would subscribe sufficient to build and equip an institution as before described. We are warranted in this belief by the encouragement and success Mr. Day met with in soliciting contributions for this purpose. Mr. Moore, of Arthington, subscribed \$100, many others subscribed \$25 each, and all said if more was needed they would give it. If the profits of the institution be yearly devoted to a building fund, it would be sufficient to add to such buildings as were required. We expect the profits would be considerable. In one month we earned \$300, in practice and collected \$150, of it. We were not able to do more than one-half of the work that presented itself, and refused several calls—one to Monrovia to see Senator Ross—and quite a number of operations, because we had not time to go so far, and no proper place in which to do the operations. Rev. Mr. Day proposes putting a fast steamboat on the St. Paul's River that will run to Monrovia in about two hours, thus giving easy access to the coast, and we believe quite a number would go to Muhlenburg for treatment from Monrovia and other parts of the coast. For instance, we met quite a number on the German S. S. "Anna Wöerman" on their way to England and Germany to be treated for their different maladies. One, a German from Accra, had a large metastatic abscess, following a boil. He had suffered a great deal from it, and was ignorant of its nature. Having made the diagnosis, we suggested an operation, and on gaining the patient's consent, we operated on shipboard. In four days the patient was able to walk about, and before we left him, six days after the operation, he was about all right, and sincerely wished he was back in Accra, where he had business connections. This man had traveled several thousand miles for the treatment of a case that could easily be treated at such an institution as we are recommending, for which the patient would have been willing to pay liberally. In this way we would also bring what we believe to be one of the best settlements of Liberia under permanent notice of not only the Liberian people but also other parts of the coast, which would have a good effect of extending further settlement in the right direction.

At the end of five years we believe the institution would be built up and no longer in need of a building fund; many of the positions on the staff would be filled by Liberian people who had been educated in the institution, and their services could be procured much cheaper than those engaged in this country. Then we expect the institution would be self-sustaining and able to carry on the good work thus commenced.

MORALS OF LIBERIA.

Viewed from a moral standpoint, Liberia presents a good field for the work of the moralist.

Everywhere immorality is the rule, and morality the exception; the more civilized they considered themselves, the more immoral we found them. We are speaking now of the colored people who came under our notice.

This immorality is a great curse to the country, inasmuch as it brings scourges from the most dreadful diseases, which wreck their systems and render both men and women sterile, and bring wretchedness and misery to many homes. In many cases they are in ignorance of the evils they bring upon themselves and others by their immoral habits, and when the results, that are sure to follow, appear they attribute them to some entirely different source. It is sufficient to shock a person to see the most dreadful cases that develop from their immoral habits; and in many cases it is the innocent offspring that suffers from the sins of their parents.

In one case we saw a girl of eighteen years whose feet were so badly ulcerated from the effects of inherited syphilis that her toes had united into a solid mass, covered over by ulcerating and bleeding surfaces. We believe she had been affected for years.

There are endless numbers of cases arising from this cause, and to suggest a practical remedy for it is a question we would recommend the Board to consider. We think it must be brought about by example of better living people amongst them, and if this, together with pointing out to them from a medicinal point of view the appalling results of such habits would not serve to modify the immoral practices among them,

we do not know what would. The good example imparted by the teachers to pupils would be carried out of the institution and be brought in daily contact with the inner lives of those whom they serve afterwards, and in this way good results might be expected from it; the fact that they would have something to occupy their attention, and something to live for, might serve to keep them in the paths of virtue.

We feel strongly on this question, for there is so much depending on it, as the country is bound to be what the people make it. The people's lives and happiness depend on those immoralities being at least modified, and nature assisted by medicinal aid in throwing off the evils already left on the unhappy races.

DIFFICULTIES TO BE SURMOUNTED.

The scheme is full of difficulties to be surmounted. In the first place it will need some care in selecting a staff to fill the positions we have described. The trouble we think will be very apparent when our statistical figures are inspected. We think, however, that with care, good attention, and not too much work, the death rate could be considerably reduced.

We consider the unhealthiness of the country by far the greatest obstacle in the way, but if it was not for this very thing, there would not be such a demand for the undertaking we are now recommending. No doubt there will be some trouble in arriving at the proper arrangements with the Lutheran Missionary Society, and it is to facilitate this matter that Rev. D. A. Day proposed visiting this country if this Board saw fit to adopt this scheme.

It would be quite likely that some of the party that would go out would find it necessary to return before the time of their engagement expired, as was the case with Mr. Collins of our party, and of course this would add to both the trouble and expense of keeping up the staff.

There is little doubt but such a scheme if adopted would be slandered and abused both inside and outside of that country by the enemies of any steps forward. This will no doubt be increased in the country by the selection of the

locality now contemplated. But as opposition to any particular locality is sure to arise on the part of the residents of other settlements, we do not deem this point to be worthy of much consideration.

WHITE PEOPLE NOW LIVING IN LIBERIA.

Mr. Cole went out in 1883 intending to study in the college for two years before commencing missionary work, but left in a few weeks for the Vey country, where he still lives.

Rev. Father Stoll and two other Catholic priests established a mission and boys' school at Monrovia in 1885. They did considerable good by dispensing medicine to the poor, but their missionary work was a failure and they left after three years. Though not living in the country they still live in Sierre Leone.

Rev. D. A. Day and wife have been in Liberia for 16 years; they have had fairly good health.

Rev. Mr. Goll has been in Liberia nearly two years. He is Mr. Day's assistant.

Mr. Buckwater has been in Liberia about one year. He teaches school at Monrovia.

Miss Beacon has been in Liberia for about one year. She teaches school at Muhlenburg. Has had 30 attacks of fever.

Mr. and Mrs. Chapman arrived in Nov., 1889, settled in Monrovia and commenced missionary work. They were alive when we left, in Jan., 1892, but Mr. Chapman was very sick. He refused to take medicine.

PEOPLE WHO HAVE RETURNED TO AMERICA.

Rev. Mr. Pressy arrived in Liberia about the first of Jan., 1884. He settled in Bendor. In a few months he became a raving maniac from the effects of fever. He returned home in about a year in his right mind, but a complete physical wreck.

Rev. Mr. Colley arrived in Liberia about the first of Jan., 1884. Settled in Bendor. Returned to America in about four years, in poor health.

Rev. Mrs. Colley settled in Bendor in 1884, returned to America with her husband in about four years, also in poor health.

Two Catholic Missionaries who went out under Father Stoll, in 1885, returned in a year or little over.

Mr. Noys arrived in the latter part of 1885. After remaining some months at Rev. D. A. Day's, he returned to America.

Mrs. Noys arrived in latter part of 1885, returned to America after some months.

Mr. Smyrl returned home in Jan., 1892, in broken health, after being there little over a year.

Mr. Harris arrived in the latter part of 1886, returned to America in about four months.

Mr. Westfield arrived in latter part of 1886, returned to America in a few months.

Mrs. Westfield came in 1886 with her husband, and returned with him in a few months.

Miss Lizzie Cox arrived in the latter part of 1886, returned to America in about six months in broken health.

The adopted daughter of *Rev. Moses Hopkins* arrived in the latter part of 1886, was sent home in a few weeks sick with the fever.

WHITE PEOPLE WHO DIED IN LITTLE OVER A YEAR.

Rev. Mr. McKinney arrived about the first of Jan., 1884. He was to have studied in the college for two years before going to work, but after two months he went to the Vey country where he died in little over a year of fever. He had little care and no medical attention.

Mrs. Lorrence arrived in latter part of 1886, returned to America in about six months, sick. Went out a second time in Dec., 1890. Died in Feb., 1891.

Dr. Hubler made one visit of something under a year and returned. On his second visit he died in less than a year.

WHITE PEOPLE WHO DIED IN A FEW MONTHS.

Mrs. Pressy arrived in 1884, settled in Bendor. She and her child (a few days old) both died in a few months.

Miss Alice Lisle arrived about Jan., 1884, died at Muhlenburg inside of a few months of fever. She refused to take medicine up to a short time before her death. She is also said to have suffered a great deal mentally.

Father Coleman arrived in 1885, died in a few months at Monrovia. He was of delicate build. He had some medical attention.

Miss Mary A. Carpenter arrived in the latter part of 1885. She died in a few weeks from fever. She had some medical attention.

Miss Eunice Knapp arrived in 1886, died in four weeks, took no medicine until near the close of her illness.

Rev. Moses Hopkins, American Consul, arrived in the latter part of 1886, died in a few months from dysentery induced by fever. He had poor medical attention.

Rev. Mrs. T. B. Perry arrived in Dec., 1888, died in a few months from fever.

Infant child of Mrs. Perry, born in Liberia July, 1889, lived but a few months.

Mr. Kerwood arrived in Nov., 1889, died from fever in about 11 months.

Miss North went out in Dec., 1890, died in a few months.

Mr. Herschy arrived in Dec. 1890, died in eight months.

Consul Clark arrived in the fore part of 1891, died in a few months.

Three children of the Rev. D. A. Day have all died; one born in America died about six months after reaching that country. She was about 12 years of age. The other two, born in Liberia, lived but a few months.

Rev. Mr. Dake landed on the 7th of Dec., 1891, was taken sick two weeks after his arrival, after being ill about ten days he embarked for home and died at Sierra Leon 24 hours after leaving Monrovia.

From statistical figures obtained from personal histories, we ascertained the following:

- I. Average age of American born people now living in Liberia, 43 years.
- II. Average duration of life of people born in America who afterwards lived and died in Liberia, 33 2-7 years.
- III. Average age of people born in Liberia and still living there, 17 5-9 years.

IV. Average duration of life of Liberian born people, children included, 8 2-3 years.

Exclusive of children under one year of age, 16 years.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CHAS. E. THOMSON, M. D.

GUY N. COLLINS.

Dated New York, April 19th, 1892.

2437

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TITLE**